

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] In accordance with the present invention, the components, process steps, and/or data structures may be implemented using various types of operating systems, computing platforms, computer programs, and/or general purpose machines. The computer programs may be stored on a program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method as described herein. In addition, those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that devices of a less general purpose nature, such as hardwired devices, field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), or the like, may also be used without departing from the scope and spirit of the inventive concepts disclosed herein. Furthermore, the present invention is described in the context of a switch. However, one of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the term switch should be read broadly, so as to include any device that directs packets, including a router and a gateway.